

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6087

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 LA PAZ 5188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, BL

SUBJ: BOLIVIAN HUMAN RIGHTS EVALUATION REPORT (PART B)

REF: A) STATE 140421 B) STATE 141243 C) LA PAZ PAZ 5150 PART A

FOLLOWING REPLIES KEYED TO NUMBERS AND LETTERS PARAGRAPH
4 REFTEL A.

B. ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. LEGITIMATE OBJECTIVES OVER THE NEXT THREE, SIX AND
TWELVE MONTHS IN BOLIVIA WITH RESPECT TO CATEGORIES
A 1, 2 AND 3 OF REFTEL C.

GENERAL

FOR JUSTIFIABLE REASONS THE MAJORITY OF BOLIVIANS DO NOT
CONSIDER THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BOLIVIA TO BE
ANALOGOUS TO BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, CHILE, PARAGUAY OR
URUGUAY. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC CRITICISM
AND COMPLAINT ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS RECENTLY,
(IN NO SMALL PART DUE TO US POLICIES) ESPECIALLY THE
RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL PARTY AND LABOR UNION ACTIVITIES,
MAY, AND PERHAPS MOST BOLIVIANS ARE PROUD OF THE ECONOMIC
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PROGRESS THEIR COUNTRY HAS ACHIEVED IN RECENT YEARS, AND OF
THE RELATIVE POLITICAL STABILITY WHICH HAS ALLOWED THE
MAJORITY TO LIVE AND WORK IN PEACE AND SECURITY. BOLIVIAN
GOVERNMENT LEADERS PROFESS TO BELIEVE THAT THEIR COUNTRY
CONTINUES TO BE THREATENED BY LEFTIST SUBVERSION,
WHICH, IF NOT SUPPRESSED, WOULD CAUSE THE NATION TO DISSOLVE
INTO THE CHRONIC INSTABILITY OF THE PAST. THEY JUSTIFY

CONTINUED RESTRICTIVE POLITICAL MEASURES, INCLUDING POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT, ON THE NEED TO MAINTAIN POLITICAL STABILITY FOR A LONG ENOUGH PERIOD TO PERMIT THE NATIONAL ECONOMY AND INSTITUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN SUFFICIENTLY TO PERMIT A RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, GOB LEADERS ARE INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT, (INCLUDING WITHIN BOLIVIA). THEY ALSO ARE MOST CONSCIOUS OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE USG IN MATTERS AFFECTING BOLIVIA, SUCH AS INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY POLICIES (INCLUDING THE POTENTIAL INFLUENCE OF OUR STRATEGIC TIN STOCKPILE ON WORLD TIN PRICES) OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. SOME BELIEVE THE USG HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN MAINTAINING PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE SOUTHERN CONE, AND POSSIBLY ALSO IN HELPING ACHIEVE THE NATIONAL GOAL OF AN OUTLET TO THE SEA. THE TOP GOB LEADERSHIP IS A PRAGMATIC AND INTELLIGENT GROUP WHICH WISHES TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES WHILE ACHIEVING THEIR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC GOALS. HENCE, THIS GROUP IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO CONSISTENT, DIRECT AND INTELLIGENT DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO CONTINUE IMPROVING THEIR TREATMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS. OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FRAMED IN THIS CONTEXT AND ARE INTENDED TO TAKE THE REALITY OF BOLIVIA'S SITUATION INTO ACCOUNT, AS WELL AS OTHER US GOALS IN BOLIVIA.

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RESPECT FOR INTEGRITY OF THE PERSON.
OVER THE NEXT THREE TO SIX MONTHS THE EMBASSY CHARGE AND MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL/ECONOMIC SECTION SHOULD REFLECT USG CONCERN OVER THE ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE WITH KEY GOB AUTHORITIES. THEY SHOULD REINFORCE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ICRC VISITS AND SUGGEST IN A LOW KEY THAT THE CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE ISSUE BE RESOLVED.
USIS SHOULD CONTINUE SUPPLYING THE MEDIA WITH INFORMATION MATERIALS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, HELPING KEEP THE QUESTION PUBLICLY ALIVE. USIS OFFICERS, IN CONTACTS WITH NEWSPAPER EDITORS AND RADIO AND TV DIRECTORS SHOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS--A PRACTICE WHICH HAS BEEN DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR SEVERAL EDITORIAL TREATMENTS OF THE SUBJECT.
AMERICAN SPECIALISTS SHOULD CONTINUE BEING USED TO BRING HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS TO THE ATTENTION OF BOLIVIAN ELITES (A RECENT AMSPEC RAISED THE SUBJECT IN A TALK TO THE ARMED FORCES ADVANCED STUDIES SCHOOL). VIDEOTAPES AND TEXTS OF MAJOR PRESIDENTIAL AND OTHER USG PRONOUNCEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD BE USED JUDICIOUSLY WITH GROUPS OF INFLUENTIAL BOLIVIANS.
THE EMBASSY SHOULD IDENTIFY BOLIVIAN LAWYERS AND JUDGES WHO MIGHT BE PROVIDED GRANTS TO THE US TO DISCUSS HUMAN

RIGHTS IN SEMINARS OR LEGAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS. THEY
MIGHT ALSO OBSERVE THE FEDERAL DISTRICTS COURTS ACTIVITIES.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR SUITABLE CANDIDATES, FOR EXAMPLE, FOR
THE MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON CURRENT ISSUES (STATE 148747).
EXPLORATION OF MEANS WHEREBY THE USG COULD PROVIDE FINANCIAL
AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR JUDICIAL REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT,
AND THE DESIREABILITY OF US SUPPORT FOR IMPROVING THE
PENAL SYSTEM SHOULD BE INITIATED DURING THE NEXT THREE
MONTHS.

ALL OF THESE MEASURES ARE FEASIBLE, AND UNLIKELY TO SPARK A
NEGATIVE BOLIVIAN REACTION. UNLESS THE EMBASSY DEVELOPED
NEW INFORMATION THAT MOST POLITICAL PRISONERS WERE EITHER
BEING TORTURED OR BRUTALIZED OR THAT HUNDREDS OF BOLIVIANS
WERE BEING ARRESTED OR INTIMIDATED, WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND
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THE USG RAISE THE THREAT OF OUR POTENTIAL ECONOMIC OR
POLITICAL LEVERAGE OR MAKE HIGHLY CRITICAL PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON BOLIVIA'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD, SINCE WE DO NOT BELIEVE
IT WOULD BE JUSTIFIED.

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6088

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 LA PAZ 5188

RESPECT FOR CIVIL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES
THE PRESENT RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL, LABOR UNION AND
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES CONSTITUTE A MORE
COMPLEX PROBLEM FOR US ACTION. PRESSURES ARE GROWING IN

BOLIVIA, ESPECIALLY FROM TRADITIONAL POLITICAL PARTY AND LABOR LEADERS FOR A REOPENING OF "NORMAL" ACTIVITIES. THE GOV HAS PROMISED A RETURN TO DEMOCRACY IN 1980, BUT IS MOVING WARILY ON IMPLEMENTING PROCEDURES IN ORDER TO AVOID LOSING CONTROL OF THE SITUATION. GIVEN BOLIVIA'S COMPLEX POLITICAL HISTORY, AND THE ANIMOSITIES, JEALOUSIES AND THIRST FOR REVENGE WHICH STILL LIE UNDER THE SURFACE, THE EFFORT TO REOPEN TRADITIONAL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES COULD BECOME A QUAGMIRE IN WHICH WE BELIEVE THE USG SHOULD SEEK TO AVOID BECOMING MIRED. THERE IS VERY LITTLE DIPLOMATIC OR OTHER LEVERAGE WHICH WE CAN EXERCISE IN THIS ENVIRONMENT. OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS TO ONE YEAR, WE BELIEVE US OFFICIALS SHOULD LIMIT THEMSELVES TO APPLAUDING, WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE GOB DECISION TO MOVE TOWARDS DEMOCRACY IN 1980 IN A MANNER AND TIMETABLE CONSISTENT WITH ITS INTERNAL NEEDS. AS LONG AS THE GOB DEMONSTRATES FORWARD PROGRESS IN THIS REGARD, WE SEE NO REASON TO CHARGE SUCH A POLICY. IN THE FIELD OF LABOR RIGHTS THERE ARE ACTIONS WHICH THE USG CAN TAKE. AIFLD/B CONTINUES TO TEACH COURSES SUPPORTING

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TRADE UNION AUTONOMY AND FREE ELECTIONS. ITS ACTIVITIES COULD CONTINUE AT THEIR PRESENT LEVEL. ADDITIONALLY, THE EMBASSY IS CONSIDERING AN OFFER FROM OLAB/USAID WASHINGTON FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE GOV IN A PILOT PROJECT AIMED AT IMPROVING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF A TARGET GROUP OF URBAN POOR. SUCH A PROJECT WOULD HELP GIVE US ACCESS TO MAJOR BOLIVIAN LABOR OFFICIALS AND ALLOW US TO MAKE QUIET EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF FREE LABOR UNION DEVELOPMENTS.

GOVERNMENT POLICIES RELATING TO BASIC NEEDS FOR FOOD, SHELTER AND HEALTH.

AS INDICATED IN PART A (REFTEL C) THE GOB IS MAKING A STRONG EFFORT AT NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BASED ON ITS FIVE YEAR PLAN. IT HAS ALSO ACHIEVED CONDITIONS IN WHICH EXTERNAL FINANCING FROM INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES, FOREIGN BANKS, AND FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTORS HAS BEGUN TO INCREASE RAPIDLY. DISBURSEMENTS BY INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES ON PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS INCREASED FROM \$55 MILLION IN 1973 TO \$275 MILLION IN 1976. THE GOV HAS ALSO SENT OUT TO REFORM ITS FISCAL SYSTEM AND ITS MINERALS TAXATION SYSTEMS WITH THE HELP OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY, IS REFORMING ITS COMMERCIAL, BANKING, AND LABOR CODES, HAS INSTITUTED A NATIONAL PLANNING APPARATUS AND IN OTHER WAYS IS ATTEMPTING A FULL-SCALE AND RAPID MODERNIZATION OF ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS. THE FIVE YEAR PLAN CALLS FOR \$3.5 BILLION IN INVESTMENT IN THE 1976-1980 PERIOD. CRITICS OF GOV DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND EFFORTS BELIEVE THEY ARE HAVING THE EFFECT OF UNDULY HELPING THE URBAN MIDDLE AND UPPER CLASSES AND FAIL TO GIVE ADEQUATE ATTENTION TO LABOR SECTORS AND

ESPECIALLY THE RURAL POOR. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE
NO RELIABLE STATISTICS TO INDICATE TRENDS IN INCOME
DISTRIBUTION, NOR IS THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT ONE WHICH
A NATION SUCH AS BOLIVIA, WITH ITS SCARCITY OF MANAGERIAL,
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SKILLED, AND TRAINED RESOURCES, CAN EASILY MASTER. IT DOES
SEEM CLEAR THAT A FAVORABLE ECONOMIC CLIMATE IN GENERAL
SINCE 1971 HAS REDUCED SOCIAL TENSIONS SOMEWHAT, AND THAT THIS
HAS ALLOWED THE GOB TO FOLLOW HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES LESS
RESTRICTIVE THAN IF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION WERE SERIOUSLY
ADVERSE. HENCE, IN THE LONG RUN, CONTINUATION OF EXTERNAL
SUPPORT FOR BOLIVIA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WITH EMPHASIS ON
HELPING THE POOREST SECTIONS, SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A FAVORABLE
CLIMATE FOR OBSERVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. USAID'S DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DAP) PRESENTLY BEING DRAFTED, AND THE
DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF OTHER INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE WORLD
BANK, ARE THE PROPER MEANS FOR CONSIDERING IN DETAIL HOW TO
SUPPORT BOLIVIA'S DEVELOPMENT. SUFFICE TO SAY THAT DURING
THE COMING THREE MONTHS TO ONE YEAR, THE USG SHOULD CONTINUE
SUPPORTING BOLIVIA'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS SO LONG AS THE
HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION DOES NOT DETERIORATE.

AMONG THE OTHER POSITIVE STEPS THE USG CAN TAKE TO ASSURE THE
GOB THAT IT IS SERIOUS IN ITS INTENTION TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS
BY HELPING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE THIRD WORLD ARE CONTIN-
UED COOPERATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL INCLUDING A
VOLUNTARY DONATION TO THE TIN BUFFER STOCK, AND RESTRAINT AND
CONTINUED CONSULTATION ON OUR STRATEGIC STOCKPILE SALES POLICY.
SUCH A STANCE WILL NOT ONLY AVOID DAMAGING BOLIVIA'S COMMODI-
TIES-ORIENTED ECONOMY, BUT WILL ALSO PRESERVE A FAVORABLE
CLIMATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES.
FINALLY, THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW AMBASSADOR WILL AFFORD AN OPPOR-
TUNITY FOR A DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT BANZER OF USG HUMAN
RIGHTS POLICIES AND CONCERNS AND FOR A REVIEW WITH APPROPRIATE
BOLIVIAN AUTHORITIES AND THE USAID DIRECTOR OF POLICIES TO
IMPROVE THE LOT OF THE POOR. ALSO, THE EMBASSY HAS NOTED
SPECIFIC INTEREST AND SUPPORT FOR IMPROVING HUMAN RIGHTS IN
BOLIVIA ON THE PART OF GREAT BRITAIN, WEST GERMANY, SWEDEN,
DENMARK AND NORWAY. WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH
THESE GOVERNMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE BY EXCHANGING INFORMATION.
THERE MAY BE OCCASIONAL SITUATIONS DURING THE NEXT TWELVE
MONTHS WHEN WE WOULD WISH TO MAKE A JOINT APPROACH TO THE
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GOB ON SOME SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6089

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 LA PAZ 5188

2. BOLIVIAN REACTION TO US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES.
WHILE MANY GOB LEADERS PUBLICLY SAY THEY SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS
IN GENERAL AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS EMPHASIS OF THE CARTER ADMINIS-
TRATION, PRIVATELY SOME INDICATE THEY CONSIDER THAT THE US
POLICY IS NAIVE, AND FAILS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CONTINUING
COMMUNIST SUBVERSION, AS WELL AS THE FRAGILE ECONOMIC AND
POLITICAL SITUATIONS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SUCH AS BOLIVIA.
SEVERAL PROMINENT BOLIVIANS HAVE POINTED TO RECENT TIME MAGAZINE
ARTICLE ON THE POWER OF THE MAFIA IN THE UNITED STATES AS RE-
FLECTING AN EXCESS DEGREE OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND FAILURE OF
THE STATE TO PROTECT THE WEAK AGAINST THOSE WHO ABUSE THE SYSTEM.
AT THE SAME TIME GOB OFFICIALS AND MILITARY OFFICERS FEAR BEING
LUMPED TOGETHER WITH NEIGHBORING MILITARY REGIMES AND ARE CON-
CERNED THAT INDISCRIMINATE CONDEMNATIONS OF MILITARY GOVERNMENTS
WILL BE APPLIED TO THEM. GOB LEADERS ARE THEREFORE WILLING
TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT ACCOMODATIONS TO U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS PRES-
SURES AS LONG AS THIS DOES NOT THREATEN THEIR VITAL INTERESTS.
THE GOB REACTION TO U.S. PRESSURES FOR PROMPTER TREATMENT OF
JAILED U.S. CITIZENS, WHILE NOT STRICTLY A HUMAN RIGHTS MATTER,
INDICATES THE GOB IS WILLING TO TRY TO IMPROVE ITS JUDICIAL
PROCEDURES; 4 NEW JUDGES WERE APPOINTED TO HANDLE NARCOTICS
CASES AMONG OTHER MEASURES TAKEN.
AMONG BOLIVIAN POLITICIANS, INTELLECTUALS (HERE IN OR EXILE)
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AND CHURCHMEN THERE IS VOCAL APPLAUSE FOR U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES. THE MORNING LA PAZ DAILY PRESENCIA, A CHURCH SUPPORTED NEWSPAPER HAS ENDORSED PRESIDENT CARTER'S POLICY WHOLEHEARTEDLY. IT HAS APPROVED THE USG CUTTING AID TO MILITARY GOVERNMENTS WHICH VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMENDED A RENEWED EMPHASIS ON MORAL CONCEPTS IN US/LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS. THE ARCHBISHOP OF LA PAZ HAS SPECIFICALLY CITED PRESIDENT CARTER AS AN INSPIRATION AND AN INFLUENCE IN THE CHURCH'S SUPPORT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. USG REFERENCES TO FRIENDSHIP WITH DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS, THE EMPHASIS ON CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT AND REDUCTIONS IN US ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN MILITARY GOVERNMENTS SIGNALLED TO TRADE UNIONISTS AN ACTIVIST POLICY. THEY HOPE THE USG HAS PREPARED TO TAKE UP AN INTERVENTIONIST POLICY ON BEHALF OF TRADE UNION AUTONOMY AND RENEWED DEMOCRATIC POLITICS. THE LABOR SECTOR GENERALLY WANTS THE USG TO EXERCISE MORE PRESSURE ON THE GOB IN THE HUMAN RIGHT AREA. MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY LEADER (THOSE STILL REMAINING IN BOLIVIA) BELIEVED AT THE OUTSET THAT THE USG WOULD ACTIVELY INTERVENE IN BOLIVIAN AFFAIRS TO SEEK A RETURN TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT, WHILE THIS BELIEF IS BEGINNING TO DISPEL, THE STATED U.S. PREFERENCE FOR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEMS HAS NO DOUBT ENCOURAGED THE OPPOSITION PARTIES TO PUSH HARDER FOR A RETURN TO CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT. IN SHORT, AMONG THOSE INTERESTED IN POLITICAL AND LABOR UNION AFFAIRS THERE IS STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE US POLICY REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. IMPLICATIONS FOR POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE CHANGES IN HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS

THE PROSPECTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGES IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION ARE REASONABLY GOOD. FOR THE REASONS EXPRESSED IN 2 ABOVE, THE GOB WILL WISH TO IMPROVE ITS HUMAN RIGHTS IMAGE IN ORDER TO AVOID PROBLEMS WITH THE U.S. AND OTHER MAJOR HUMAN RIGHTS PRO-
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PONENTS. THE GOB HAS COMMITTED ITSELF TO "CONSTITUTIONALIZATION" OF THE COUNTRY IN 1980. DANGERS TO GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT ARE: ECONOMIC CRISIS(WITH SUBSEQUENT CLAMOR AGAINST THE GOB); RENEWED TERRORISM PRESUMABLY BY THE ELN (NOT LIKELY IN THE NEAR FUTURE); OR OPEN DIVISION AMONG THE ARMED FORCES (A POSSIBILITY BUT NOT A PROBABILITY). THEREFORE IF THE GOB CONTINUES TO REGISTER ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND DOES NOT FEEL TREATENED BY TERRORISM AND/OR MAJOR DISTURBANCES IN THE MINES, THE OUTLOOK IS GOOD FOR A RETURN TO SOME KIND OF POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION FREEDON IN 1980, ASSUMING LEADING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS, THE PERMANENT HUMAN RIGHTS ASSEMBLY, POLITICIANS AND ELEMENTS OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND TRADE UNION SECTOR WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS THE GOVERNMENT STEADILY FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES, FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND FREE ELECTIONS. ALTHOUGH GOV OFFICIALS ARE NOT USUALLY ENTHUSED BY THE EFFORTS OF THESE GROUPS, WE DO NOT EXPECT THEM

TO MAKE ANY SERIOUS OR SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO SILENCE THEM UNLESS THEY BEGIN TO RESORT TO ANTI-GOVERNMENT PLOTTING. IT WAS AN ATTEMPTED COUP IN NOVEMBER, 1974 WHICH PROMPTED THE ARMED FORCES TO DISSOLVE THE UNITED FRONT WITH BOLIVIA'S TWO MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES AND ESTABLISH AN ALL MILITARY GOVERNMENT. RENEWED ANTI-GOVERNMENT EFFORTS OF THIS KIND WOULD DOUBTLESS PROVOKE REPRESSIVE MEASURES AND CAUSE A DETERIORATION IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION.

4. A. QUIET AND CONSISTENT EFFORTS BY THE US AND THE MISSION IN PARTICULAR ON BEHALF OF HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING CONTINUED AID FOR BOLIVIA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF TRENDS TOWARDS CONSTITUTIONALIZATION, WOULD NOT JEOPARDIZE OTHER US INTERESTS IN BOLIVIA. AN EFFORT TO PUSH THE GOB FASTER THAN IT IS WILLING TO GO, ESPECIALLY IF IT WERE DONE IN A FASHION WHICH THREATENED TO DESTABILIZE THE INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION COULD, ON THE CONTRARY, CAUSE A GOB REACTION WHICH WOULD DAMAGE OUR PRESENT HARMONIOUS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. WE SEE NO REASON FOR THIS TO OCCUR IF PRESENT HUMAN RIGHTS TRENDS IN BOLIVIA CONTINUE AND IF THE USG USES TACT AND DIPLOMACY IN
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PURSUING ITS HUMAN RIGHTS GOALS.
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